

PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE

By BETTY ETTER

Those of us who thought, optimistically, that with our move into the Time-Life building scheduled for the week-end of November 5, we would be ready for business the following Monday have once again retreated to the bar at the National Democratic Club to drown our disappointment in gin and bitters.

Due to "technical delays," said President *Will Oursler*, the opening would be delayed for a week or two.

But there has been progress. The furniture was moved in, as per schedule ... is now being cleaned and dusted and put into place ... and as of Friday, the 12th, we even had a telephone, in spite of the strike which has left thousands of New Yorkers dependent on carrier pigeons for the last few months.

Our one phone, situated in the office of Manager *Jimmy Menditto*, bears the number 247-0083.

The big move began at 6 o'clock Friday evening — although on Thursday it looked for a time as if it would have to be postponed. On hand at 4 P.M. in our new quarters were *Agatha Young* and *Hildegard Fillmore*, two of our hard-working associate members, with a crew rounded up by *Gloria Watson*. The movers put our multitude of furnishings down and bowed out leaving the job of assorting and arranging to volunteers, who finally closed the doors at 3:45 A.M. Saturday.

On hand to help *Agatha* and *Hildegard* were *Ralph Schultz*, *William Olcott*, *Jim Wessel*, Mr. and Mrs. *Harry Levine*, *Ruth Biemiller*, *Bill Toulouse* and non-members *Rosalyn Simon* and *LaVerne Owens*.

Mrs. *Young* appeared carrying 150 sandwiches ... Miss *Fillmore* donated such supplies as marking pencils, tape measures, scissors and other practical items ... *Ralph Schultz* provided the liquid refreshments.

On Monday morning Mrs. *Young* and Miss *Fillmore* began the work of arranging the various offices and the corridor which will serve as lounge and waiting room for guests. With the help of Manager

Menditto, a crew from the OPC and *Judge Allman*, who served as security officer, they spent the entire week in our new quarters, trying to bring some semblance of order out of chaos.

Two things quickly became apparent: one, we have much too much furniture, a good deal of it looking pretty shabby; and, two, in traditional OPC manner, every kibitzer who appeared on the scene had criticisms and suggestions.

But *Young* and *Fillmore* kept punching, and at least one member, *Henry Gladstone*, stopping in to case the situation, had a good word for their efforts. The corridor, arranged with sofas, chairs and small tables, looked, he said, "like Peacock Alley."

So the sofas were a bit shabby and all the furniture needed a good rubbing and cleaning, the pink seats on the chairs had been cleaned — and came out beautifully — and herculean efforts were being made to make the club comfortable and livable until our finances improve to

the point of re-covering or replacing sofas ... reframing pictures, and the like.

Coffee was provided daily by Mrs. *Young* — and how many members do you know who write books, are demon executives and can COOK?

Meantime, back at our offices in the Democratic Club the routine business of the OPC was being carried on by our office staff, and as the dream of having our old 39th Street bar faded, *Prexy Oursler* and Manager *Menditto* scoured the city for one suitable and within our means.

When those "technical delays" will be cleared up and we will be able to operate in our new quarters is anybody's guess. On November 11, *Oursler* said "a week or two." The bartender at the Democratic Club picked December 1. Everyone else has a different notion — one to a member. But the day is coming, and members will be notified of both the informal (earlier) and formal openings. Meantime, patience and fortitude.

New Quarters to Open with a Bang

With the new club headquarters scheduled to open officially in the Time-Life Building this month, the program committee is lining up top headliners for the first weeks.

The inaugural party will be held as soon as possible following Thanksgiving week. By that time the furniture will be in place, and the catering service arranged in the new quarters.

Two book nights are being scheduled: one on *Joseph Lash's* "Eleanor and Franklin," and the other on *Nicholas Gage's* (*New York Times* reporter) "The Mafia Is Not An Equal Opportunity Employer." Dates will be announced in the next OPC BULLETIN.

AFL-CIO President *George Meany* has been lined up to address a luncheon at the new club on December 14 or 15. The date will be confirmed also in the next bulletin.

A headliner luncheon is planned when

White House press secretaries will discuss "The Vantage Point," by *Lyndon Baines Johnson*.

Harrison Salisbury, editor of *The New York Times*, OP-ED page, will chair a forum discussion of the "New Journalism" at another forthcoming event.

Plans for regional dinners and for the Grand Formal Opening are proceeding, but the selection of dates awaits a shake-down of the kitchen facilities in the new quarters.

The program committee met in the new Grill Room at the Time-Life Building Wednesday, November 3, for a sandwich lunch, catered by *Jimmy Menditto*, the new Club manager, and for bring-your-own drinks supplied by OPC President *Will Oursler*. Toasts were made to the new quarters at this first function in the new spot, to the accompaniment of drills and pounding by nearby workmen. — *John McAllister*.

PEOPLE & PLACES

By GRACE NAISMITH

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES: Mary Bass Gibson has a new book out — "The Family Circle Book of Careers at Home," published by Cowles-Regnery. Mary wears two hats — she is a columnist for Family Circle and is associate director of the MacDowell Colony, celebrating its Seventh Annual Benefit Nov. 11, honoring Virgil Thomson... "Fielding's Travel Guide to the Caribbean, Plus the Bahamas 1972" by Jeanne and Harry Harman III, area editors, published just in time for the coming season.... The new Harry N. Abrams art book takes its title, "The Law and the Prophets," from the NBC-TV special written by Richard Hanser.... "Starting New Research from the Man Who Talks to Plants" by Janice and Charles Robbins in October-November National Wildlife.... A new magazine, Folio, will be published by Joseph J. Hanson, president of Market Publications, Inc., in May, 1972, in New Canaan, Conn. It will be about the business of publishing magazines — trade, professional, specialized and general consumer publications.... Lin Root's think article, "Of Viruses and Cancers," has been reprinted in a new book, "Readings in Health Science" — Harcourt Brace & Jovanovich, Inc.

NEW POSTS: Peter Arnett, Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter for AP, has been appointed a Special Correspondent for the world wide news cooperative. Arnett, war correspondent in Vietnam for eight years, won the OPC's George Polk Memorial Award for Best Reporting — Any Medium in 1970 and also was awarded the Sigma Delta Chi foreign reporting honor in 1968.... Richard W. Darrow has been elected chairman of Hill and Knowlton, Inc; James J. Cassidy has been elected president and chief operating officer and Carl G. Thompson elected an executive vice president.... Harry A. Harcher has been named Scout Executive of the Far East Council with headquarters at Tachikawa Air Force Base, near Tokyo. He is a former officer-in-charge of the European edition of Stars and Stripes and editor of Boy's Life. He will supervise 16,000 Scouts and leaders in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Okinawa and Thailand.

SPEAKERS: NBC's Russ Tornabene will be guest lecturer December 2 at Indiana University, Bloomington. Subject: news management in broadcasting, Indiana U. is his alma mater.... Ralph D. Gardner, president of his own advertising firm, was guest lecturer on 19th Century U.S. Literature at the University of Wyoming's School of American Studies recently, then made a business trip to Europe. He has a new book out, too, "Road to Success; The Bibliography of the Works of Horatio Alger," published by Wayside Press.

TRAVELERS: Dick deRochemont on a business vacation trip to Europe this month.... James W. Trullinger back from Caracas and Venezuela.

ITEMS OF INTEREST: Dr. A. Irwin Grantz, criminal court psychiatrist, co-author of a paper read at the recent APA meeting in Washington. Title: "Competency to Stand Trial — Inability to Communicate."... Kathleen McLaughlin covering the UN for Catholic News Service.

DEATHS: John M. Mecklin, a Fortune and veteran foreign correspondent on October 29.... Herbert Schachian, husband of Ruth Schachian, on September 7.

WANTED: News items for People and Places — especially from people in far-away places.

NEW MEMBERS

The following action has been taken by Admissions Committee:

Active

PAUL McPHERSON, Chemical Week
GLEN M. RENFREW, Reuters
BARRY ZORTHIAN, Time-Life

Affiliate

JEANNE BRADY, Asiatic Petroleum Corp.

Associate

CAROL BASEN, Basen Associates
ROBERT FENTON, Catholic Digest
JANET KOTEL, Mechanical Engineering
MARK W. KRAMER, New American Library
STUART JAMES, Fawcett Publications
SAUL LOEB, Philip Morris
DONALD A. WOLLHEIM, Charter Communications
TERRY SCHAEDEL, Family Weekly

Reinstatements — Active

J. REILLY O'SULLIVAN, Associated Press (retired)

Transfers — Associate to Active

John Scott, WOR
Theo Wilson, Daily News

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